

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

16. (currently amended) An information processing system, comprising:

an input unit for receiving, ~~form~~from external of said information processing system, circuit information of a module constituting a semiconductor integrated circuit, a floorplan which is allocation information of blocks constituting the module, and evaluation indices, generated based on said circuit information of the module, for evaluating modifications of the floorplan,

wherein the circuit information, floorplan and evaluation indices are associated with each other;

a storing unit for storing the associated circuit information, floorplan and evaluation indices; and

a processing unit for reading the floorplan stored in the storing unit according to specification information for modifying the floorplan when the specification information for modifying the floorplan is input, generating a plurality of floorplan candidates each being modified based on the read floorplan and the specification information, evaluating the generated floorplan candidates based on the evaluation indices stored in the storing unit, and selecting one floorplan based on an evaluation result.

17. (previously added) The information processing system in accordance with claim 16, wherein the evaluation indices includes know-how of a designer who designs a semiconductor integrated circuit.

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18. (currently amended) An information processing system used for designing a semiconductor integrated circuit, comprising:

a storing unit for storing circuit information of a module constituting the semiconductor integrated circuit, a floorplan which is allocation information of blocks constituting the module, and evaluation indices, generated based on said circuit information of the module, for evaluating modifications of the floorplan, wherein the circuit information, floorplan and evaluation indices are associated with each other; and

an input/output unit for transmitting the associated circuit information, floorplan and evaluation indices from the storing unit.

19. (previously added) The information processing system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the evaluation indices includes know-how of a designer who designs a semiconductor integrated circuit.

Claim 20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (canceled).